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Governor's appeal granted by FEMA; Northern Indiana governments to receive aid

Indianapolis (April 28, 2008) – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved Governor Mitch Daniels' request for federal assistance to governments in northern Indiana devastated by flooding earlier this year.

Counties included are Benton, Carroll, Cass, DeKalb, Elkhart, Jasper, Kosciusko, Marshall, Newton, Noble, Pulaski, Starke and White.

On March 20, FEMA denied a request to assist state, county and local governments to repair damage and reimburse emergency costs. The governor appealed the original decision, saying that damage was much more severe than originally recognized. Additional damage was discovered and verified in several counties after flood water receded.

FEMA's public assistance program provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain private non-profit organizations. The program also encourages protection of these damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.